

### ABSTRACT

A device is provided to protect the neck and the base of the skull of a person engaged in sports or other physical activities. The device comprises a first impact-resistant pliable substrate for protecting the back of the person's head, a second cushioning substrate lining the first substrate. The device encircles a substantial portion of the person's neck; with straps or other fastener devices provided to facilitate closure and anchoring of the device around the person's neck. While the device is typically worn with a helmet and attached thereto, the device also may be used alone, or in combination with a soft-style cap.